

**Cass County Fair Association**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**GREGAREK BUILDING**  
May 10, 2022

**GUESTS:** Tiffany Graves, Sara Heuer, Bobbi Labar, Brenda Smego, Mike Smego, Austin Towne, Amber Werer, Logan Werer, Rennie Witham

**ABSENT:** Mike Frushour, Ben Waldschmidt, Jerry Zachary

**KUEMIN:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Brian Kuemin and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the April 12, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed. Zelda moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Rodney. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. Shane moved to approve the report as submitted, seconded by Gene. Motion carried.

**KUEMIN:** Brian reported that at the recent workshop, the fair board decided that guests would be limited to 3 minutes. Brian stated that suggestions and proposals need to be submitted 2 weeks before the meeting.

**GUESTS:**

**WERER:** Logan stated that he met with Daryl about the North Red Hill horse barn.

**GRAVES:** Tiffany asked about reserves covering for the fair. Brian stated that it would be the same as last year. Discussion.

**SMEGO:** Mike stated that the work night this Thursday needs to focus on finishing the North Red Hill and Jones Rough Riders horse barns. After that he wants to start on working on the goat barn. Discussion.

Mike stated he spoke to Jeremy McDonald. Jeremy can't do the waterlines due to his work schedule. There is no water to the infield, the Tractor Pullers and some vendors. Discussion.

Mike stated that Advance Plumbing is coming to do the rough-in plumbing for the Lowe Building and then drywall can be hung. Mike contacted Jason Wright (Moore Brothers) and the cost of the lean-to increased due to building materials. He would like to buy the materials so the cost doesn't increase again.

Mike talked to Rob Eubank about moving trees. Rob stated that they will do that Thursday night.

Mike stated he has put a list together for work nights and asked that everyone bring tools.

HEUER: Sara stated that the bleachers on the east end of the draft horse ring need to be replaced. Sara stated that they aren't safe. Brian stated that the board will look at them and see what can be done. Gail asked about the west side and Sara said that they are okay for now.

KEESLER: Daryl stated that the board needs to adjust the fence (north side of driveway) near the beef barn and draft horse barn so that golf carts can drive through. He said there needs to be a gap for safety reasons with cattle. Sara stated that wouldn't be a problem.

SMEGO: Brenda stated that all the fair book advertising has been collected.

Brenda reported that Jot Form is available and 32 light horse exhibitors have completed the registration. Brenda is providing the horse leaders a list of registered exhibitors every Friday. Shane posted on Facebook on how to complete the registration. Brenda stated that Brooke Lamb would like to use the Jot Form for cats and dogs. No paper forms are going to be accepted.

Brenda stated that sponsorship is going well.

Brenda stated that the grounds clean up, bathroom attendants, grandstand ticket takers, and window ticket sellers are all coming back.

Brenda reported that the grounds will be disinfected on July 15th.

Brenda stated she met with Chuck Martin from VFP Fire Systems. The contract for the fire suppression system for the Lowe Building needs to be signed. Chuck will get all of the necessary permits.

Brenda stated that she called the Lowe Foundation to let them know that the fair was awarded the \$100,000 grant. The price includes everything. Discussion.

KEESLER: Daryl asked when the camping lottery is. It will be held on June 25th. Shane will post it on Facebook and the website.

PETERSON: Gail asked about the status of the heating and cooling for the Lowe Building. Mike stated they were supposed to order the units in January but not sure if there will be sufficient funds to purchase those. Brenda explained the pricing for the grant and that prices have increased greatly. Discussion.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

KUEMIN: Brian stated that Missy Town had requested the board's assistance about recourse for exhibitors not cleaning stalls/pens. Brian stated there will be no change to the policy this year but the board will look at it for next year. Each livestock barn committee has a fair board liaison on it and he would like the board liaison to go through the buildings at 10:00 to make sure the

stalls/pens are clean. If there are issues, the board will get involved. The tagging system will continue to be used. Shane added that the book says that they can be excused from the fair if it comes to that. The increased awareness and the board being involved will hopefully help with this.

HERSHBERGER: Jill reported that the gates committees are planning to come back.

BRATTON: Dave asked board members to reach out to businesses about sponsorship.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

SMEGO: Brenda stated that the rental contract needs to be looked at.

Brenda gave an update on the Barn Believers grant. The grant is a \$5,000 grant for anything to save a barn.

KUEMIN: Brian reported the fair was awarded the \$100,000 grant for the sprinkler system. Daryl moved to accept the proposal from VFP for the sprinkler system, seconded by Rodney. Motion carried.

SMEGO: Brenda reported that the fair book being online will expedite Blue Ribbon to be in place quicker. Brenda met with Patty and the fair book can be added to the website in two sections so that the back half with the classes are available for exhibitors.

KUEMIN: Brian reported that he and Brenda met with the sheep barn superintendent about the balance being paid for the gates.

HARRIS: Shane stated 79 sheep were validated, which is down from previous years. There were approximately 100 goats validated.

KUEMIN: Brian reported the insurance agent wasn't able to come to the meeting due to traffic issues. Diane and Brenda are going to come up with a list to provide to him.

Brian reminded board members that work nights are every Thursday starting at 6:00 p.m.

PETERSON: Gail reminded the board that two board meetings were held at the COA. Gail moved to give a donation of \$50 to the COA for use of their meeting room, seconded by Shane. Discussion. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

KUEMIN: Brian reported that the state has a ban on exhibition of poultry because of positive cases. In order to exhibit poultry, you have to be 30 days out from the date of the positive case. Brian asked the poultry superintendent to provide alternate show options, which was provided to board members. Discussion. Shane believes the processing has to be USDA inspected. Brian stated he thinks owning a bird is not enough to allow kids to sell the bird, and the exhibitor needs to do a market book or some type of educational component. Discussion. The board

consensus was to allow exhibitors to do something if the ban continues that includes an educational component and make sure a USDA processor is used. Brian stated that he will work with Missy on this.

Brian stated that he wants to form two ad hoc committees. One committee is to show appreciation post fair for volunteers. The committee consists of Jim, Brenda, Shane and Rodney. The second committee is for the Hall of Fame, which is one more way to show appreciation. People will make the nominations (not the fair board). Brian suggested limiting the number of inductees, which could include some people who have passed away. The award would be presented at the annual meeting. Discussion. The committee consists of Zelda, Gail, Jill and Gene.

PETERSON: Gail stated the board has been having superintendent recognition with the president's dinner. Discussion.

SMEGO: Brenda passed out the current events calendar to the board.

HARRIS: Shane asked about the Memorial Day campout. Brenda stated there is one registration.

SMEGO: Mike stated there is a car show this weekend, and he has notified dispatch and Chief McMichael as a reminder because of noise.

Mike reported the Moose Lodge is coming back this year with the Bingo tent.

HARRIS: Shane moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gene. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Elizabeth Mesko*

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Recording Secretary